MIKE MCKAY Legislative District 1C Allegany and Washington Counties

Appropriations Committee



Annapolis Office

The Maryland House of Delegates
6 Bladen Street, Room 322
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3321 · 301-858-3321
800-492-7122 Ext. 3321
Mike.McKay@house.state.md.us

District Office 100 North Mechanic Street Cumberland, Maryland 21502 240-362-7040

THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES Annapolis, Maryland 21401

HB1091 - Maryland Medical Assistance Program

Long-Term Care Services and 2 Supports – Personal Needs Allowance

March 4, 2020

Chairwoman Shane E. Pendergrass, Health and Government Operations Committee

Room 241, House Office Building

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Chair Pendergrass, Vice Chair Pena-Melnyk and Members of the HGO,

The purpose of HB1091 is to increase the personal needs allowance to \$450 per month or \$5,400 per year for certain Maryland Medical Assistance Program recipients who receive certain long-term care services and supports. I would like to share with you the following important points.

- 1. Amendment HB1091/253724/1 will correct the true intentions of the bill—The intention of the bill was to effect only Adult Day Care Services facilities where the client returns home daily. The fiscal note, described that Long-Term Services and Supports would be effected resulting in a very large fiscal note. This amendment, we believe, will address those in opposition and the large fiscal note. We have requested that with this amendment the Fiscal Note be recalculated.
- 2. Medicaid / aged blind income limit currently \$350. Due to this limit, clients lose community based services at the six month mark therefore removing them from the daily program until paperwork is processed to get them services again.
- 3. Many times this is the only contact this population has with the outside world including a meal
- 4. A \$100 increase in the monthly income limit will fix the problem
- 5. I have included two news articles covering the problem from Cumberland Times News. Loosen it up and Local residents lose services while on Medicaid 'spend down'

Thank you for your consideration of HB1091

Respectfully,

Mike McKay

Serving Allegany and Washington Counties